

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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SALT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: US, PINT, PARM, XG

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

VIENNA AND GENEVA FOR MBFR AND CSCE

WELLINGTON FOR INGERSOLL AND PAO

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. WEDNESDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED KISSINGER TO

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VISIT MIDEAST AGAIN. INSIDE STORIES INCLUDED: ARMS TALKS

RESUMED; HARTMAN PLAYS DOWN NATO RIFT IN HOUSE TESTIMONY;  
ZUMWALT STRESSES GROWTH OF SOVIET SEA POWER PLACES US AT  
POINT OF GREATEST JEOPARDY; SOVIET EASES CURBS ON ENVOYS;  
PRAVDA SAYS US JAILED GIS AS REDS AFTER WORLD WAR II,  
APPARENTLY TO COUNTER SOLZHENITSYN CHARGE SOVIET TROOPS  
WERE SENT TO PRISON BECAUSE THEY SURRENDERED TO NAZIS;  
TASS SAYS US VOTERS DISCONTENTED OVER ENERGY CRISIS AND  
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN EXPLAINING REPUBLICAN LOSS OF MICHIGAN  
HOUSE SEAT.

1A. THURSDAY PAPERS FEATURE DOMESTIC ITEMS; INSIDE HAVE  
KISSINGER IN MEXICO; RUSSIA FIRES MISSILE TEST IN PACIFIC;  
NIXON TELLS CONGRESS US BIDS EUROPE AID NATO; WASHPOST  
BRUSSELS REPORTS EUROPE ANGERED BY US SUMMONS OF ENERGY  
COORDINATING GROUP NEXT MONDAY TUESDAY BEFORE HEALING OF

WOUNDS FROM FIRST WASHINGTON MEETING. PAPERS REPORT  
SOVIET ATTACKS DISSIDENTS AS SEEKING TO HALT DETENTE;  
GERMAN BUNDESTAG APPROVES NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY; JAPAN  
ASKS HALT IN VISIT OF NUCLEAR SUBS UNTIL RADIATION  
MONITORING IS INSTALLED NEXT MONTH, 117 NATIONS MEET IN  
GENEVA TO UPDATE WAR RULES.

2. SALT. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST BRIEF FROM GENEVA REPORTED  
SALT NEGOTIATORS HELD FIRST SESSION IN THREE MONTHS,  
RESUMPTION COINCIDING WITH NEW RUSSIAN TESTS IN PACIFIC.  
SALT MAINTAINED PRACTICE INITIATED IN 1969 OF RELEASING NO  
DETAILS OF MEETING.

2A. BALTSUN GENEVA AP REPORTED RESUMPTION IN APPARENT  
EFFORT AT CONCRETE ACHIEVEMENTS BEFORE PRESIDENT'S JUNE  
TRIP TO MOSCOW, ADDING JOHNSON SEMENOV MET FOR 80 MINUTES  
IN HEAVILY GUARDED SOVIET MISSION. AP SAID RECESS WAS  
TWICE EXTENDED, SOVIET SOURCES SAYING THIS WAS AT AMERICAN  
REQUEST. ACCORDING AP, LAST SEPTEMBER SOVIETS SUBMITTED  
PROPOSAL OUTLINED LAST WEEK IN PRAVDA, INSISTING ON A  
REDUCTION OF US FORWARD-BASED SYSTEMS IN EUROPE AND ASIA,  
INCLUDING THE TACTICAL NUCLEAR FORCE AND CLOSING OF SUB-  
MARINE BASES IN SCOTLAND AND SPAIN, AND IN RETURN SOVIETS  
OFFERED TO ACCEPT WORLD-WIDE NUMERICAL EQUALITY IN  
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STRATEGIC WEAPONS PROVIDED BRITISH AND FRENCH NUCLEAR  
FORCES WERE COUNTED WITH THE AMERICAN.

2B. WEDNESDAY NYTIMES GENEVA SPECIAL REPORTED RESUMPTION  
OF TALKS ON LIMITING OFFENSIVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, ADDING  
THERE WAS NO INDICATION WHEN THE NEGOTIATORS SEPARATED  
ON NOVEMBER 16 THAT ANY MEASURABLE PROGRESS HAD BEEN  
ACHIEVED SINCE THEY BEGAN SECOND PHASE OF NUCLEAR ARMS

TALKS A YEAR EARLIER. CURRENT AIM IS TO CONVERT 1972 INTERIM ACCORD INTO FORMAL TREATY OF UNLIMITED DURATION. NEXT SESSION SET FOR FRIDAY.

2C. WEDNESDAY LATIMES COOK GENEVA SAID DEADLOCKED SECOND ROUND OF SALT RESUMED AGAINST BACKGROUND OF NEW ROUND OF SOVIET TESTING IN PACIFIC, AND LIKELIHOOD OF ANYTHING HAPPENING VERY SOON IS EVEN MORE REMOTE THAN IT WAS BEFORE RECESS BEGAN. ACCORDING COOK, THE HARD NEGOTIATING STANCE TAKEN BY SOVIET UNION AGAINST ANY FURTHER CUTS OR TAPERING-OFF IN NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY ON BALLISTIC MISSILES, WHICH THEY GAINED IN SALT ONE HAS NOW FILTERED THROUGH TO CONGRESS PENTAGON AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY, AND AS RESULT THERE IS GENERALLY HARDENING OF POLITICAL FEELING THAT NIXON ADMINISTRATION HAS ALREADY NEGOTIATED

ENOUGH AWAY AND THIS IS NOW TIME FOR PAUSE RATHER THAN FURTHER CONCESSIONS. COOK ADDED FASHION IN WHICH ADMINISTRATION HANDLED SALT ONE WAS NOT EXACTLY CALCULATED TO ENCOURAGE SOVIET NEGOTIATORS TO DO BUSINESS WITH AMERICAN DELEGATION IN SECOND ROUND HEADED BY JOHNSON BECAUSE IN FIRST ROUND SMITH WAS CONSTANTLY BYPASSED AT KEY POINTS BY DEALINGS BETWEEN NIXON KISSINGER AND KREMLIN. SINCE NIXON HAS NOW CONFIRMED IN GROMYKO MEETING THAT HE EXPECTS TO GO TO MOSCOW AROUND JUNE AND HOPES THEN TO CONCLUDE ANOTHER ARMS AGREEMENT, SAID COOK, HE LEAVES JOHNSON IN SOMEWHAT SAME POSITION AS SMITH. ACCORDING COOK, IT'S BETTER FROM KREMLIN STANDPOINT TO REFUSE ANY CONCESSIONS IN GENEVA AND WAIT UNTIL THEY GET NIXON IN KREMLIN TO SEE WHAT THEY CAN EXTRACT IN WAY OF AGREEMENT.

2D. MONDAY LATIMES ABRAMSON WASHINGTON REPORTED JOHNSON AND DELEGATION TOOK TO GENEVA CAREFULLY PREPARED POSITION UNCLASSIFIED

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PAPERS WRITTEN DURING THREE-MONTH RECESS BUT OUTLOOK WAS FOR ESCALATED NUCLEAR WEAPON RACE. ACCORDING ABRAMSON, A MAJOR HANGUP DURING SALT ONE WAS SOVIET INSISTENCE UPON A REDUCTION OF US NUCLEAR FORCES IN EUROPE AND RESTRAINTS UPON US TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS BUT US IS STILL BELIEVED TO BE PLACING TOP PRIORITY--OR NEAR IT--ON CONTROLS OF MULTIPLE WARHEADS, ALTHOUGH IN RECENT MONTHS THERE HAS BEEN HEIGHTENED INTEREST IN CONGRESS AND ARMS CONTROL CIRCLES IN REDUCING NUMBERS OF LAND-BASED ICBMS ON EACH SIDE, CITING PROPOSALS BY JACKSON AND PROXMIRE.

3. TESTS. THURSDAY BALTSUN WASHINGTON AP STORY REPORTS PENTAGON ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECOND IN A SERIES OF RUSSIAN MISSILE TESTS; THIS TIME FIRING A SSX-18 EQUIPPED WITH MULTIPLE WARHEADS INTO THE PACIFIC.

3A. WASHPOST HOFFMAN LOCAL AP ADDS FRIEDHEIM SAID I DON'T  
THINK WE ARE IN A POSITION TO MAKE ANY JUDGEMENT ON A  
CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TEST AND THE OPENING OF THE SALT  
TALKS. AP ADDS RUSSIA IS BELIEVED TO BE CLOSING TECHNO-  
LOGICAL MIRV GAP WITH US.

3B. TUESDAY NYNEWS EDITORIAL CALLS TIMING OF RUSSIAN  
ANNOUNCEMENT ON BEGINNING NEW MISSILE TESTS A CRUDE  
ATTEMPT BY KREMLIN TO EXTORT FURTHER CONCESSIONS AT SALT  
II AND STATES THAT THE ARMS RACE IS STILL ON--EXCEPT THAT  
RIGHT NOW ONLY ONE ENTRY IS RUNNING.

4. NATO. THURSDAY NYTIMES WASHINGTON REUTERS REPORTS THAT  
IN SPECIAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS NIXON SAID US WARNED

EUROPEAN ALLIES THEY MUST FURNISH MORE SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN  
FORCES IN EUROPE TO AVOID A WITHDRAWAL OF SOME. MESSAGE  
WAS A REPORT ON CONGRESSIONAL PROVISION MANDATING A WITH-  
DRAWAL FROM EUROPE UNLESS ALLIES OFFSET COSTS INVOLVED,  
NIXON SAYING GERMANY HAS OFFERED INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR  
AND US LOOKS TO  
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